ANNUNCIATION: SUMMARY OF THE MINIMUM THAT YOU SHOULD KNOW ABOUT MARY

1 Was written by Luke; called "the Historian" because, being a very erudite Syrian-Greek physician and furthermore disciple of the apostle Paul, he wrote for Greeks investigating and proving the facts before aerating them (Luke 1,3). If the only visual witness of the infancy of Jesus was his Mother and it was She who after Pentecost transmitted it; then the two first chapters of Luke were communicated by Mary, though possibly not to Luke himself. In Luke 1,26-38 it says: "After six months, the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town of Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin espoused to a man named Joseph, of the house of David. And the name of the virgin was Mary. And when the angel had come to her, he said, "Shout for joy, full of Grace, the Lord is with thee." When she had heard him she was troubled at his word, and kept pondering what manner of greeting this might be. And the angel said to her: "Fear not, Mary, for thou hast found Grace with God. Behold, thou shalt conceive in thy womb and shalt bring forth a son; and thou shalt call his name Jesus. He shall be great, and shall be called the Son of the Most High; and the Lord God will give him the throne of David, his forefather, and he shall be king over the house of Jacob forever; and of his kingdom there shall be no end." But Mary said to the angel, "How shall this happen, since I do not know man?". And the angel answered and said to her, "The Holy Spirit shall come upon thee and the Power of the Most High shall overshadow thee; and therefore the Holy One to be born shall be called the Son of God. And behold, Elizabeth thy kinswoman also has conceived a son in her old age, and she who was called barren is now in her sixth month; for nothing shall be impossible with God." But Mary said, "Behold the slave of the Lord; be it done to me according to thy word." And the angel departed from her."

2 Among the Jews, the name of the person was linked to their mission and STATE. Therefore, the angel replaces the proper name of Mary (the greeting should have been: Shout for joy, Mary,...) by a title that GOD gives to Her as a statement of love: "full of Grace". The angel ALREADY finds Her in that state. God fills with Divine Grace (or Divine Love) those whom he most favors; filled, there is not space for the sin that is the lack of Grace or the denial of God. Mary had to be IMMACULATE (without Original Sin, nor any class of sin). The absolute purity of the real God-made Man, that is Jesus, could not come out of something impure

3 "The Lord is with thee" means that God has for Mary a SPECIAL protection: God is with Her ALWAYS (She did not sin). And thus, as to fulfil the beatitudes is a cause for joy; nobody enjoyed as She did a perfect HAPPINESS

4 When angels appeared to people, these praised them. And it was always thus, until with Mary an angel greeted Her VENERABLY and filled Her with praises. Mary is Queen and more excellent than the angels because She is the Mother of GOD. She brought Christianity and co-operated to the salvation of the world by Jesus; because of this DESERVING VENERATION (TO VENERATE is to adore God through a being. TO ADORE is to love God directly). The TRUE DEVOTION to Mary consists in loving God in the Neighbor, through Her

5 The words of the angel disturbed Her (She blushed), because of a treatment of which She felt unworthy; upon measuring the difference between the MODEST conception that Mary had of Herself, and the highest expressions with which She was venerated. Mary: the "full of Grace", in whom the Lord is, who talks quietly with the angel in spite of her impression and confusion, and even reflects on his words; COULD NOT be afraid before the presence of God or of his messenger, as is known by the HISTORY OF HER LIFE

6 The Divine Grace is always a response to prayer, one which is a request that God do what only He can do. In those times every Jew was praying for the coming of the Messiah, and Mary also. She with her prayer that was requesting the coming of the Messiah for ALL the human gender (since She REPRESENTS it by divine will), achieved his coming; therefore the angel says to Her: "Fear not" (that is to say, do not worry any more, your request has been granted) "for thou hast found Grace with God"; or rather, the Grace that you WERE SEEKING. With this is being expressed to Her that God chooses Her as PARTNER, since She is recognized as the one who has FAITH IN GOD (that is to say, who believes and helps to the fulfillment of the promises of God to Humanity, who LOVES). God ASSOCIATED with Mary would save the World; therefore Mary is COREDEEMER, that is to say: collaborator of the ONLY Redeemer (or Savior, that is Jesus); who would help Him: With the offer of her Son EDUCATED by Her, with her maternal love, her faith, her suffering, as woman; at the same time representing Humanity and the Church: to accept the salvation and feel pity for Jesus. The principal WORK of this association and cooperation would be the divine maternity

7 Every mother is a mediatoress (she is the MEANS that brings to the world and JOINS) and all persons are made, are accomplished, in the earthly life; continuing in the other life such as they were made here. Mary JOINED heaven with earth because She was Mother of a God-Man, of the MAXIMUM and TOTAL Grace, that is to say: of Christ. Furthermore She was Coredeemer, sharing ALL with Jesus; therefore She communicated ALL the Divine Grace to Humanity and CONTINUES communicating it. Mary is MEDIATORESS (DEPENDENT ON CHRIST) OF ALL THE GRACES

8 As Jesus is God, He cannot be a model: of faith in God, in increase in holiness, nor of union with Himself; therefore MARY IS IMPORTANT, since She is the first MODEL in those senses; furthermore as WOMAN, as MOTHER (of God and Ours), and REPRESENTING Humanity and the Church

9 "Thou shalt conceive in thy womb and shalt bring forth a son; and thou shalt call his name Jesus" (Jesus means: God-Save) says the angel to Her according to Isaia (7,14) and to indicate that here is fulfilled said prophecy; where it is read of a virgin damsel that not only will conceive but also WILL GIVE birth, to GOD, remaining virgin

10 "How shall this happen, since I do not know man?" Mary does not doubt, only asks about the WAY in which She is going to be Mother. Note that the verb is in its form of present conjugation and, therefore, it has a sense toward the future (as when is said: I do not marry xxxx). Which means that She does not know, nor intends to know man (not to know man means that She does not have sexual-genital relationships with any male); furthermore it indicates an EXCLUSIVE ownership DESIRE to God remaining virgin, spiritually as well as physically. Only thus can her question be explained in someone that soon would be married, and that NORMALLY could have a son with her husband. The answer: "The Holy Spirit shall come upon thee"; explains that She will not conceive by male intervention, that She will stay virgin. And, as was seen, it was her desire to stay in that state even after the marriage: Mary is ALWAYS VIRGIN (Note: "brother" in the Bible is not referred NECESSARILY to carnal brother; and NEVER does it say in PLURAL: the children of Mary, nor the children of Joseph)

11 The Holy Spirit was with Mary from her conception (in that moment She was filled with Grace, as preferred daughter of God-Father) and descended here again UPON HER, not only on her bosom (as God-Son Mother), and when descending in Pentecost upon Mary made Her MORE Mother of the Church (and its spiritual or Mystical Wife). Because of all this they are NEVER separated and as the Holy Spirit is: the Divine LOVE (Roman 5,5) that SANCTIFIES (John 20,22), gives FREEDOM (2-Corinthians 3,17), and RESUSCITATES (Roman 8,11); originated the ASSUMPTION OF MARY in body and soul to heaven

12 Mary is the Ark of the New and Eternal Alliance, or rather the Church; which is a MATERIAL guarantee of the fact that God is with his people. MARY REPRESENTS AND IS A MODEL OF THE CHURCH since She GAVE Humanity to God; and as in the Ancient Testament a cloud covered with its shade the Ark of the Alliance, to express the help and the presence of God, thus She is covered with the "shadow" of the Highest; with which GOD will be made present in her bosom

13 In response to the How? of Mary the angel showed to Her the Mystery of God, that is a God and three Persons. These being: the Holy Spirit (God-Love that joins), the Highest Father (God-Creator), and the Son (God-Redeemer that is made man); TOGETHER in the same phrase

Book FREE on website of SCRIBD.COM

14 Mary intelligent and reflexive measured her responsibility and decided, without consulting anybody, to give her absolute acceptance without doubting nor demanding guarantees; attitude that She will maintain all her life in spite of her PAINS. Her emotional stability in the face of victories and pains is an additional sign of the fact that She is Immaculate (Mary possessed a perfect external and internal balance)

15 Mary knew, from the announcement, everything necessary for her decision: that She was going to conceive in her bosom the Messiah, the Son of God and Redeemer of Humanity. She by her own will, FREE and conscientiously, decided to accept the proposal and be full of HUMILITY "slave (or servant without requesting payment) of the Lord"; with which She declared Herself at the same time servant of the WORLD since the Lord (God) is in all that is created, especially in Humanity. Jesus and Mary are KINGS OF ALL THAT IS CREATED for they are SERVANTS of the world

16 The Virgin was an exceptional creature, but as human: SISTER OF MEN. She knows that people should reflect and accept God in their hearts, that He communicates to his creatures the necessary truths; therefore She knows very well how to use the WORDS (to speak and to be quiet) at the right time. It is noted that her greatness was her LOVE united to her faith, not her knowledge. Mary relied on her Lord and gave Herself up OBEYING HIM with her: "be it done to me according to thy word"; which She pronounced in her own name and representing Humanity. The FAITH IN GOD of Mary (which is to believe and to help God, or rather TO LOVE) was the greatest and most absolute, since She by the faith conceived and by the faith gave birth to GOD. Mary is MOTHER OF GOD because Jesus is really God and really man INDIVISIBLY (as any mother is of the TOTAL PERSON of her son: body and soul; though she did not create his soul)

17 Mary is MOTHER OF HUMANITY AND OF THE CHURCH for giving LIFE to Humanity, that is to say by giving to it Christ (who is the Life, the Salvation) and for collaborating with Him. Furthermore She by being Mother of God (of Jesus) is Our Mother, because in Him all is INCLUDED because He is the Head of a Mystical Body that is all of Humanity and especially of the Church (1-Corinthians 12,27); therefore Jesus who is one, died for all. This incorporation was accomplished with the "be it done" of Mary

18 The Annunciation was not ended with the words of the angel but with the free acceptance of Mary, since God WAITED for her "be it done" to accomplish the Incarnation (the God- Man union of Jesus). He talked with Her freely and with mutual respect, since if he had forced the conception of Jesus against the freedom of Mary it would not have been an example for a FREE world